

REMARKS

The Office Action dated March 28, 2005 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 24-29 are added. Claims 1-29 are pending in the application, of which the independent claims remain 1, 2, 8, 13 and 18. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,799,081 to Kim et al. (“Kim”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,550,008 to Zhang et al. (“Zhang”) and ITU-T Recommendation H.222.0 (hereinafter “ITU-T”).

Claim 1 recites:

wherein . . . the point of deployment module generates a reply message which includes at least one control information pair, relating to the information, each control information pair having copy control information and a stream identifier, respectively generating a first key in the point of deployment module and a second key in the set-top box, using the at least one control information pair

The Office Action first suggests that the stream ID shown in FIG. F.7 of ITU-T serves as the “stream identifier” of claim 1, but this is incorrect.

The stream ID of FIG. F.7 identifies a type of elementary stream, and is not uniquely identified with a particular elementary stream. Accordingly, the stream ID does not uniquely identify a CCI assigned to a particular elementary stream.

The Office Action next suggests that a content identifier in an ECM (entitlement control message) corresponds to the “stream identifier” of claim 1, but this is incorrect. The ECM “content identifier,” when present in an ECM, may identify a category of the content. Although FIG. 21 in Kim shows an ECM and CPTC transmitted

by the smart card 261 to the controller 262, this does not suggest the coupling of a CCI with an identifier of the particular elementary stream to which the CCI is assigned.

Incidentally, the suggestion by the Office Action that Kim uses the ECM to identify the content appears to lack foundation, and does not appear to be supported by the cited passage (lines 61-67 of column 18 in Kim).

For at least all of the above reasons, the cited combination of references fails to render obvious the present invention as recited in claim 1.

As to independent claims 2, 8, 13 and 18, they are worded similarly to claim 1.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

The remaining rejected claims each depend from one of the base claims and are likewise deemed non-obvious over the cited references for at least the same reason as that asserted for the respective base claim.

However, each addresses an additional aspect of the invention, and warrants consideration based on its further, individual merits.

For example, the language particular to claim 7 does not seem to find support in any of the applied references, alone or in combination. As mentioned above, it is unclear what motivation would have existed for pairing a CCI with the stream ID of ITU-T FIG. F.7.

New claims 24 and 27 find support in the specification (e.g., page 11, lines 18-21).

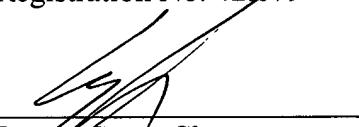
New claims 25-26 and 28-29 find support in the specification (e.g., page 11, lines 18-24; page 12, lines 5-6; page 13, lines 5-9).

A check for \$300.00 (6 x \$50.00) is enclosed in payment of the fee for adding six claims in excess of 20.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all the present claims are patentable in view of the cited references. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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6/27/05
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